

Message Text

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APPROVED BY NEA/ARP:FMDICKMAN

TREAS/OMEA/JNEWMAN

EB/CBA:MR.GRAHAME

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 044643

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (SIMON, WILLIAM E.)

SUBJECT: SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS DURING SECRETARY SIMON'S
VISIT

REF: (A) ABU DHABI 423, (B) ABU DHABI 414, STATE 26994,
(D) ABU DHABI 468

1. WE HAVE FOUND YOUR COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS FOR SECRETARY SIMON'S VISIT CONTAINED REF B TO BE HELPFUL. REF A AND OTHER MESSAGES DO NOT INDICATE WHETHER EMBASSY HAS DISCUSSED SUBSTANTIVE ASPECTS OF SECRETARY SIMON'S VISIT WITH UAEG OFFICIALS IN ANY DETAIL SINCE ITS FIRST GENERAL DISCUSSION WITH FORMIN SUWAIDI. WOULD APPRECIATE KNOWING WHEN SUWAIDI AND HABROUSH ARE EXPECTED TO RETURN TO CONTINUE SUCH DISCUSSIONS.

2. REF A SEEMS TO SUGGEST THAT MEETING WITH SHAIKH ZAYID WOULD BE LARGER THAN MEETINGS WITH MINISTERS. IT IMPORTANT
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THAT SECRETARY SIMON HAVE AMPLE OPPORTUNITY FOR SUBSTANTIVE

DISCUSSION WITH ZAYID SINCE HIS SUPPORT VITAL IF WE ARE TO HAVE UAE SUPPORT ON MATTERS NOTED REF C. THIS WOULD SEEM DIFFICULT IN LARGE PUBLIC AUDIENCE. YOU SHOULD MAKE CLEAR TO MINISTERS SECRETARY SIMON'S HOPES IN THIS REGARD, AND SEEK MEETING OF

SUFFICIENT DURATION AND APPROPRIATE PARTICIPATION.

5. RE ARRANGEMENTS FOR GROUP MEETING WITH SUWAIDI, OTAIBA, HABROUSH, AND OTHERS, OVERLAPPING RESPONSIBILITIES OF VARIOUS MINISTERS MAY MAKE GROUP SESSION ADVISABLE BUT WE WANT TO BE SURE THAT DESIRES OF INDIVIDUAL MINISTERS FOR PRIVATE MEETINGS ARE MET NOW THAT THERE IS ADDITIONAL TIME FOR SUBSTANTIVE TALKS IN AFTERNOON. THIS IS MOST EFFECTIVE WAY OF DISCUSSING WIDE VARIETY SPECIFIC TOPICS, SOME OF WHICH (E.G. INVESTMENT PLANS) MAY BE OF SENSITIVE NATURE. INGERSOLL

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